REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-10 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant acknowledges the election made on November 30, 2005.

Claims 11-14 were rejected under §103 over *Lake* in view of *Kehe, et al.* The Examiner relies upon *Lake* to teach the filter components, however, *Lake* does not disclose the use of an RF receptive material in the adhesive. *Kehe, et al.* teaches the use of an RF receptive material. The Examiner argues that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify *Lake* to use the RF receptive material of *Kehe, et al.* to provide "more efficient and efficacious fusion." This language quoted by the Examiner is taken from column 3, lines 49-50.

The teachings of *Kehe, et al.* would not motivate one of ordinary skill to modify *Lake*. The Examiner takes the *Kehe, et al.* teachings out of context. The problem in *Kehe, et al.* does not relate to the subject matter of *Lake*. Further, the comparative statement in *Kehe, et al.* that RF receptive material is more "efficient and efficacious" does not pertain to adhesives without RF receptive material. Instead this statement discloses whether an RF receptive material should be preheated prior to exposing the RF receptive material to RF frequencies.

The problem disclosed in *Kehe, et al.* concerns plastic closures, such as those made from polyolefin, which undesirably distort at low temperatures (column 1, lines 30-55). One prior solution to this problem is to preheat plastisol and then further heat the plastisol by microwaves. However, this still results in distortion of the closures (column 2, lines 18-

31).

The present invention relates to the use of RF heating when done with reference to a particular variable loss tangent of plastisol (column 3, lines 39-45). The language quoted by the Examiner from column 3 in *Kehe, et al.* is taken out of context. *Kehe, et al.* states that preheating to a loss tangent temperature is "more efficient and efficacious" because the loss tangent will be greater when preheated (column 3, lines 45-50). It is taught in *Kehe, et al.* that the loss tangent for plastisol increases sharply above 55°C so that the plastisol is more receptive to generating dielectric heat when exposed to radio frequencies. Preheating results in less overall heating time.

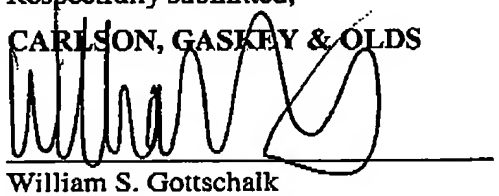
In summary, *Kehe, et al.* does not motivate one of ordinary skill to modify *Lake* based upon its teachings. Rather, *Kehe, et al.* would motivate one of ordinary skill to preheat a plastisol that contains RF material to a temperature above its loss tangent so that the plastisol will be more receptive to dielectric heating when exposed to radio frequencies. Further *Kehe, et al.* does not disclose, suggest, or teach that it would be beneficial to an RF receptive material in an adhesive for a filter as defined in the claims. Accordingly, the teachings of *Kehe, et al.* do not apply to *Lake*. The rejection to claims 11-16 should be withdrawn.

Claims 15-16 were rejected over *Lake* in view of *Kehe, et al.* and further in view of *Harms, et al.* *Lake* and *Kehe, et al.* do not disclose that the ends are constructed from an adhesive material. The Examiner relies upon *Harms, et al.* to provide this missing limitation for the reason of eliminating the need for a separate sealing means as taught in column 1, lines 17-20 of *Harms, et al.*

The filter cartridge disclosed in *Lake* docs not disclose any of the structure in which the cartridge is inserted. Accordingly, the Examiner cannot make assumptions as to whether one would be motivated to modify *Lake* to provide separate sealing means. For example, the structure within which the cartridge of *Lake* is inserted may have seals integrated in that structure, or may not seal in the prior art manner disclosed in *Lake*. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection is improper.

Applicant believes claims 11-16 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS



William S. Gottschalk
Registration No. 44,130
400 W. Maple, Suite 350
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: 3/14/06

N:\Clients\MERITOR\Files 1501 to 2000\IP01873\PATENT\Response 3-06.doc